



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

not always be depended upon to issue this writ. Parliament had a choice among three courses of action: it might accept the king's promise to observe the law; it might proceed to legislate anew on the subject; or might content itself with declaring what the law really was. After a bitter conflict between those who wished to deal with the grievance by means of a statute and those who preferred not to antagonize the king too violently, the third course was finally adopted. Dr. Relf holds that the commons determined to proceed by petition rather than by bill because it was believed that a declaration of what the law was, if passed by both houses and approved by the king, would be accepted without question by the courts. The Petition of Right is consequently neither a law nor the equivalent of a law; it was adopted by Parliament acting not in its legislative but in its judicial capacity. The author has based her study in large measure on manuscript materials which have only recently become accessible to students of history. The argument has been worked out with great care and the results are stated with clarity and precision.

L. M. LARSON.

University of Illinois.

The Development of the United States from Colonies to a World Power. By MAX FARRAND, Professor of History in Yale University. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1918. Pp. x, 356.)

This small volume expresses the new vitalizing spirit and the new point of view which has been gradually finding its way into the study and interpretation of American history since the appearance of the earlier historical writings of McMaster and Roosevelt, and especially since the appearance of Professor F. J. Turner's *The Influence of the Frontier* in 1893. For the views which it expresses the author recognizes a peculiar obligation to Professor Turner.

The volume was written "in the hope of rendering a service to those whose interest in American history has been recently stimulated." Its purpose has been accomplished with simplicity, clearness, and accuracy. Through a brief presentation of significant and prominent facts, unobscured by traditional views or multiplicity of detail, it attempts to interpret and explain the large currents and movements of American development—especially emphasizing economic (industrial and commercial) and intellectual changes and influences. It describes the dynamics of history rather than the mere record of accomplished

fact. It treats with interesting reasons and consequences, the real meaning of evolutions, the larger threads and relations of cause and effect. Considerable attention is given to the influence of the West, and adaptability to changing conditions.

In sixteen chapters the author classifies by periods, and compresses into small compass, the chief historic movements and features of American history, particularly stressing changes and adjustments to meet new conditions. A brief but choice bibliography follows each chapter. For the student of politics, two of the most interesting later chapters are "Business and Politics" and "The Second Generation." In the latter chapter the author expresses appreciation of the work of Roosevelt as the "leader of the reformers," and also of the leadership of Wilson as a positive reformer in "an unequalled record of legislative achievement . . . strengthening federal authority at the expense of local governments, contrary to Jeffersonian theories of democracy."

The book is practically free from errors—although one may question the strict accuracy of a few statements, such as: "the proclamation of 1763 was acquiesced in as a temporary measure" (p. 34); "every provision of the Federal Constitution can be accounted for in American experience between 1776 and 1787" (p. 74); "the National Road (through excessive grants from sales of public lands) was extended to the Mississippi river and beyond" (p. 99). An apparent slip appears on page 110 (line 20) in the use of "them."

Necessarily such a brief, general interpretative sketch must omit much which would have been included in a more comprehensive treatment. The volume should prove interesting to the general reader and also useful as a supplementary text in a general introductory course in American history.

J. M. CALLAHAN.

West Virginia University.

From Isolation to Leadership. A Review of American Foreign Policy. By JOHN HOLLADAY LATANÉ, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor of American History in the Johns Hopkins University. (New York: Doubleday, Page and Company. 1918. Pp. x, 215.)

Professor Latané has filled in the background of the Wilsonian democracy admirably. Incidentally, he has written what for the purposes of the general reader is the best review we have of our diplomatic history. Nor will the appeal of this little volume be limited to the general reader, for so excellent is the author's selection and grouping of material